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STRIPPABLE COATING EVALUATION

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Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio

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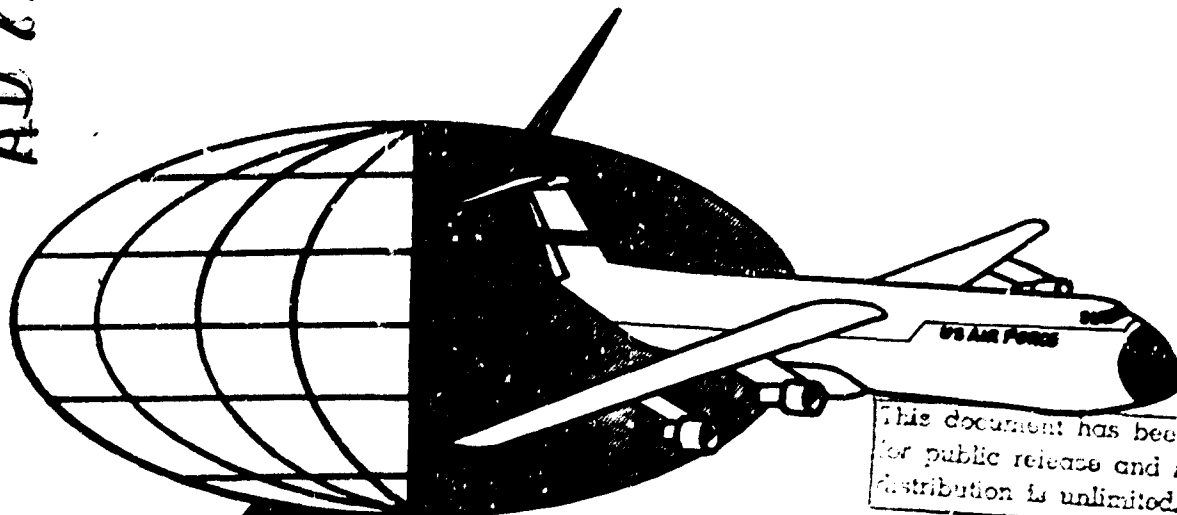
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<p>A series of tests intended to determine physical properties of a new MIL-C-6799 "type" of strippable coating were conducted. Although definitive conclusions cannot be drawn from the limited data generated to-date, a preliminary determination that the material does not possess adequate physical properties was made.</p>		

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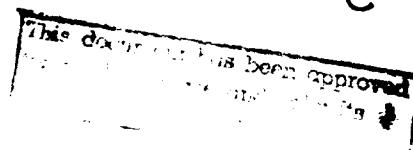
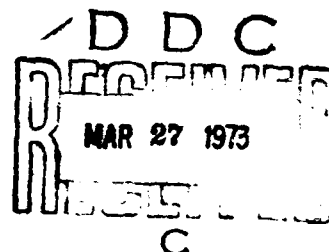
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INTRODUCTION:

The objective of this project was to determine selected physical properties of a new commercial sprayable, strippable coating that may be of value in the preservation of materiel. The coating properties were compared to the requirements of MIL-C-6799, "Coatings, Sprayable, Strippable, Protective, Water Emulsion."

BACKGROUND:

The storage procedures employed at the Military Aircraft Storage and Disposition Center (MASDC), Davis-Monthan AFB AZ, for the preservation of aircraft are being reviewed in hopes of standardizing Air Force, Navy, and Army requirements and improving the degree of protection offered. Preliminary meetings on a tri-service basis held in January 1972 indicated some concern for the long-term performance of MIL-C-6799 strippable coatings used for sealing aircraft openings and over-coating canopies and surfaces. As a result, the Air Force Packaging Evaluation Agency (AFPEA) in conjunction with the 4950th Test Wing/LGF was tasked with conducting preliminary studies on coating deterioration (reference AFPEA Report No. 72-1, AD740-895). As an adjunct to these preliminary studies, AFPEA evaluated a similar strippable coating, SHIELDEX, manufactured by W. R. Grave Company.

SHIELDEX is a proprietary two-component water based material and is similar to materials procured under MIL-C-6799. According to the manufacturer, SHIELDEX is applied in 0.005 to 0.010 inch film thickness by co-spraying the two components with either air or airless spray systems.

The SHIELDEX coating, examined by AFPEA, was still in the development or laboratory stage and may or may not be representative of coatings ultimately marketed under the SHIELDEX name.

DESCRIPTION OF TEST SPECIMENS:

Specimens 1 through 16 were SHIELDEX received from W. R. Grace and Company, Clarksville MD. The coating specimens were applied over glass panels by Grace. All specimens were received in March 1972.

Specimen 20 was a MIL-C-6799 coating (two coats) applied over an aluminum panel. The coating was applied in September 1970 at the Warner-Robins Air Materiel Area, Robins AFB GA, and maintained at AFPEA for over a year at 73°F and 50% R.H. Specimen 20 is reported only for comparison.

TEST EQUIPMENT:

a. A Honeywell Water Vapor Transmission Rate Tester, Model W825A, was used to measure water vapor transmission rates (WVTR). Determinations were made at 100°F.

b. Tensile strength and elongation determinations were made on a Model TT-C Instron Testing Instrument. Tensile Load Cell D with a maximum full scale range of 1000 pounds was employed.

c. Thickness measurements and visual observations were made with a hand held magnifying viewer and an E. J. Cady dial reading automatic micrometer graduated in 0.001 of an inch.

TEST PROCEDURES:

Environmental Conditions. Prior to the following tests, all specimens were conditioned at 73°F and 50% R.H. for 48 hours. All tests were conducted at these conditions in an environmentally controlled area. Where it was judged necessary, as between WVTR and tensile/elongation determinations, each specimen was allowed to condition at 75°F and 50% R.H. between tests. While this period of reconditioning varied from specimen to specimen, the minimum time for any one was 8 hours.

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data from independent tests. MIL-STD-883C does not specify a test for water resistance. Control specimen No. 20 was subjected to a pressure. In addition, the WVLR values for the test materials, specimen No. 21, are listed for comparison to the average packaging loss for which is considered acceptable after one protection. Average WVLR values are listed. Individual determinations are reflected in

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Table I. Water Vapor Transmission Rates

Specimen Number	WVTR grams/100 in ² /24 hrs 100°F	
	Exterior to Interior of Sample	Interior to Exterior of Sample
1	2.60	5.48
2	2.67	1.89
3	2.13	2.80
4	1.39	2.46
5	1.49	1.21
6	1.58	2.09
20	1.5	3.8
21	0.002	-

Tensile Strength-Elongation. Values of tensile strength and elongation are given in Table II. MIL-C-6799 requires a minimum tensile strength of 1700 psi and an elongation between 170-350% immediately after application and air drying for 24 hours followed by oven drying at 120°F for 24 hours and 4 hours conditioning at 73°F and 50% R.H.

Table II. Tensile Strength/Elongation

Specimen Number	Tensile Strength (psi)	Elongation (% of original length)
1	344	402
2	627	550
3	567	510
4	654	924
5	579	1040
6	681	837
7	1000	1082
8	1200	1091
9	846	1001
10	846	956
11	862	1000
12	524	880
13	513	876
14	457	860
15	588	920
16	511	924
20	388	168

Thickness. MIL-C-23760, "Coating, Sprayable, Strippable, Protective, For Preservation and Packaging of Weapon Systems and Components; Application of" recommends a total dry film thickness for MIL-C-6799 coating of approximately 0.012 inch. Average thickness values are given in Table III.

Table III. Thickness

Specimen No.	Thickness (inches)
1	0.016
2	0.015
3	0.012
4	0.013
5	0.019
6	0.016
7	0.014
8	0.012
9	0.013
10	0.013
11	0.013
12	0.021
13	0.016
14	0.021
15	0.017
16	0.018
20	0.027

DISCUSSION:

The tensile and elongation data presented in Table II shows a substantial variance from the requirements of MIL-C-6799. As previously mentioned, stripping of the material was hindered by high elongation. While on a small scale no problem was experienced, larger operations (e.g., aircraft sections) would, in our opinion, be difficult to strip. It is assumed that the material formulation could be modified to adjust the tensile/elongation values into a suitable range.

The water vapor transmission rates listed in Table I correlate fairly well with the control specimen (No. 20). Specimens 1, 3, 4,

and 6 exhibited the same higher rate in the interior to exterior direction as did the control. At this time, no logical explanation can be offered that would account for such a difference.

CONCLUSIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS:

The SHIELDEX coatings examined showed a marked difference in properties from the MIL-C-6799 specification requirements. They exhibited, on an average, only 40 percent of the specification tensile strength requirements and exceeded the maximum ultimate elongation value by 150 percent. Based solely on its physical properties, the material is not acceptable for Air Force use as a sprayable, strippable coating.

At this time, two recommendations are offered: (1) SHIELDEX should be modified to adjust tensile and elongation properties to specification values, and (2) the material should be subjected to the qualification tests of MIL-C-6799.

WATER VAPOR TRANSMISSION RATES

SPECIMEN NO. 1

<u>Exterior to Interior</u>	
<u>Seconds</u>	<u>g/100 in²/24 hrs</u>
43	2.67
45	2.56
46	2.50
44	2.61
43	2.67
44	2.61
Average	2.60

<u>Interior to Exterior</u>	
<u>Seconds</u>	<u>g/100 in²/24 hrs</u>
25	5.23
22	5.22
21	5.48
21	5.48
21	5.48
20	5.75
Average	5.48

SPECIMEN NO. 2

<u>Exterior to Interior</u>	
<u>Seconds</u>	<u>g/100 in²/24 hrs</u>
43	2.67
43	2.65
Average	2.67

<u>Interior to Exterior</u>	
<u>Seconds</u>	<u>g/100 in²/24 hrs</u>
64	1.80
64	1.80
63	1.83
63	1.83
62	1.85
61	1.89
59	1.95
59	1.95
58	1.98
58	1.98
Average	1.89

SPECIMEN NO. 3

<u>Exterior to Interior</u>	
<u>Seconds</u>	<u>g/100 in²/24 hrs</u>
65	1.77
62	1.86
57	2.02
54	2.13
50	2.30
47	2.45
40	2.88
Average	2.13

<u>Interior to Exterior</u>	
<u>Seconds</u>	<u>g/100 in²/24 hrs</u>
41	2.80
41	2.80
41	2.80
41	2.80
Average	2.80

SPECIMEN NO. 5

<u>Exterior to Interior</u>	
<u>Seconds</u>	<u>g/100 in²/24 hrs</u>
93	1.24
88	1.31
78	1.48
73	1.48
Average	1.39

<u>Interior to Exterior</u>	
<u>Seconds</u>	<u>g/100 in²/24 hrs</u>
49	2.35
48	2.40
48	2.40
45	2.56
47	2.45
48	2.40
47	2.45
45	2.56
45	2.56
46	2.50
Average	2.46

SPECIMEN NO. 6

<u>Seconds</u>	<u>g/100 in²/24 hrs</u>
106	1.09
93	1.24
77	1.50
70	1.65
69	1.67
61	1.89
60	1.92
Average	1.49

<u>Seco.ds</u>	<u>g/100 in²/24 hrs</u>
96	1.20
97	1.19
95	1.21
94	1.22
94	1.22
Average	1.21

SPECIMEN NO. 7

<u>Seconds</u>	<u>g/100 in²/24 hrs</u>
90	1.28
75	1.54
71	1.62
66	1.74
61	1.89
Average	1.58

<u>Seconds</u>	<u>g/100 in²/24 hrs</u>
54	2.13
54	2.13
55	2.09
55	2.09
55	2.09
Average	2.09

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